

No. 5715. - NOVEMBER 7, 1881.

passenger, and speed, the latter to be in excess of that of the ordinary run of colonial steamers. The total cost will be about £200,000. It is anticipated that the first steamer will be ready in November, two in December, and the fourth early next year. - *Colonial Courier*.

Returns of Visitors to the City Hall Museum for the week ending Nov. 6th.		
European	Chinese	Total
Monday	11	273
Tuesday	23	319
Wednesday	34	352
Thursday	29	407
Friday	47	491
Saturday	32	381
Sunday		
Totals	181	2,333
Grand total, 2,514.		

Law Notice.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.
(Before the Full Court.)
CRIMINAL JURISDICTION. - Tuesday, 8th Nov., 11 a.m. - In the matter of *Teung Akam* and 12 o.s., confined in Victoria Gaol.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TELEPHONE INTO HONGKONG.

We have been requested to publish the following correspondence on the subject of the introduction of Telephones into this Colony, and the several rights involved, or supposed to be involved, by such action. The correspondence, which will explain itself, is as follows:

The G. N. Telegraph Company, Station Hongkong, Oct. 28.

R. G. Alfred, Esq.,
Sirs, - Having been brought to my knowledge on good authority that you offer Bell's Telephone for sale, I beg to inform you that all privileges in the nature of letters patent or concessions for the use of Telephones that Mr. Alexander Graham Bell has acquired, or is entitled to acquire, in Hongkong, are transferred to the Oriental Telephone Company Limited, now amalgamated with the Great Northern Telegraph Company as far as Telephone lines in Hongkong and China are concerned, and that you will make yourself liable to legal prosecution by offering the instruments for sale.

I remain, Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. S. SUTTON,
Superintendent.

Queen's Road, Hongkong, October 28.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary.

Sir, - I have the honour to enclose for your perusal of a letter received by me this day from Mr. A. S. Sutton, Superintendent of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, and requesting to enquire if the Letters Patent to which he refers have been issued in this Colony and filed and registered in your office according to the requirements of Ordinance No. 14 of 1862.

Awaiting an early reply.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) R. G. ALFORD,
Surveyor, &c.

(No. 2018) Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, Nov. 7.

R. G. Alfred, Esq.,
Sirs, - I have the honour, by direction of His Excellency the Governor, to inform you, in reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo, that no Letters Patent have been issued in the Colony in reference to Bell's Telephone.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) M. S. TOWNSEND,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Canton.

Nov. 5th.

By invitation of the Viceroy, many of the foreign community attended at the Eastern parade ground on the 1st and 3rd instants, to witness a review of some 1,800 foreign-drilled Infantry soldiers and a much smaller number of native-drilled artillery soldiers exercised on horseback and on foot. His Excellency was present, accompanied by the Tartar General and two Major or Lieutenant Generals and a large staff of various grades in the pavilion on elevated ground overlooking the ample plain devoted to the purpose, the Imperial yellow flag being hoisted over a small redoubt on the left, and a tent or altar specially provided for the foreign visitors on the right. The weather was fine, with a light northerly wind to lift the numerous enigmatical columns of smoke; and although we cannot liken it to the Field of Cloth of Gold "all attendant," the primitive exercises of archery was not the least attractive part of the review. Of the practice with foreign arms, an experienced gentleman expressed the opinion that, with the exception of too lengthy intervals, it was creditable to the soldiers.

It is interesting to read in a late *Peking Gazette* the following Imperial Decree respecting a very worthy Governor of Canton who became compromised in some degree during the negotiations here in the period of Ke King's Imperial Commission (1884-85).

"Hing Ka-tung, formerly Governor of Kwangtung, subsequently dismissed the public service, and still later honored with an Imperial decree relating him for services as Sub-Prefect with similar rank of the 3rd degree, is now over 80 years of age and will soon celebrate his 80th anniversary of his nativity."

Defendant had been caught when leaving the dock premises with two sheets of copper concealed on his person.

He said in answer to the question whether he was given to him by his best copper.

His weekly imprisonment with hard labour.

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Marine Court.

(Before H. G. Thompson, Esq., Harbour Master.)
Monday, Nov. 7.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.
Martin Macdonald, seaman on board the American ship *Stonewall Jackson*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on board the said ship in Victoria Harbour on the 6th inst., and also with assaulting the Chief Officer.

Mr. H. G. Thompson, Chief Officer, said that defendant came to his room on board yesterday and ask leave to go on shore as he was drunk at the time this was refused and he was ordered to go forward. He came a second time, and making use of a filthy expression said he would go ashore. Sometime afterwards he came again and requested leave, making use of still more offensive and abusive language. He was then ordered to be confined in a room but became so riotous, breaking open the door, and using threatening language, that it was considered necessary to place him in irons. When the captain came on-board later on he was released from irons, but was still violent in his conduct, and assaulted both the captain and witness.

Captain Swain said that when he came on board about half-past eight defendant came aft drunk. He struck witness, and flourishing his arms about, made use of threatening and abusive language.

Defendant said he was drunk and he did not know whether he had committed the crime or not. The Chief Officer threatened to fight him.

O. Forquett gave evidence of the defendant's abusive language to the Chief Officer and of his general disorderly conduct. Sentence, - fourteen days imprisonment with hard labour.

REFUSAL OF DUTY.

Charles de Preter, also a seaman on the *Stonewall Jackson*, appeared on a summons charging him with refusal of duty on board the said ship this morning.

The captain said defendant refused duty on board, but would give no reason for so doing.

He now said he had no complaint to make, and was willing to go back to duty. Ordered to be sent back to his ship.

Police Intelligence.

(Before Frederick Stewart, Esq.)
Monday, Nov. 7.

A BUNCH OF DRUNK AND INCAPABLE.
Samuel Edge, a seaman unemployed, was charged with being drunk and incapable on the 6th inst.

Sergeant Grosz said he found defendant in Queen's Road yesterday evening helplessly drunk.

Only a few days since he was committed for trial for habitual drunkenness and vagrancy last month, but where case was sent back by the Attorney General to be dealt with summarily. He has scored no less than eleven convictions of this class since December last.

He had to find security in two sureties of £10 to be of good behaviour for three months, in default to be committed.

Thomas Mado, a seaman of the American ship *Holcom*, was fined twenty-five cents for being drunk and incapable yesterday evening.

Charles King, seaman unemployed, was fined fifty cents for being drunk, and was also ordered to pay fifty cents chair hire.

J. C. de Young, seaman, of the *Koningsma* of Rotterdam, who admitted he was too far gone to know what he was about, was fined fifty cents for being drunk and assaulting a constable.

John Ryan, a Private in H.M.'s Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was also fined fifty cents for being drunk and assaulting a Sikh constable yesterday evening.

WATERMAN TO GAMBLERS.
Man Aynai, a coolie, was charged with being a waterman to rogues and vagabonds engaged gambling on the Wanchin Road, yesterday forenoon.

Inspector Corcoran said he went to the back of some houses opposite No. 2 Station yesterday forenoon to look for gamblers, and when the prisoner saw him coming he gave an alarm, and from twenty to thirty men were sent to make their escape.

Six months' imprisonment with hard labour, as a rogue and vagabond.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT.
Edward Morris, seaman on board the American ship *Stonewall Jackson*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and damaging property on the 6th inst.

It appeared that defendant and some of his comrades went into a cigar and book-binder's shop in Queen's Road, yesterday evening. He asked for two bundles of cigars, but declined to pay the proper price for them, upon which the shopman refused to let him have them. He thereupon took up a tray containing writing materials and threw it at one of the assistants in the shop, smashing a pane of glass in a show case, breaking the tray itself, and damaging some paper. His companions meanwhile drew their sheath knives and stuck them in the counter. A constable who witnessed the disturbance attempted to arrest the defendant, which resulted in a struggle taking place between the constable and the other men who had their knives in their hands threatened to use them. Ultimately assistance was procured and defendant was locked up, his companions in the meanwhile decamping with the cigars without going through the formality of paying for them.

Defendant said he did not remember anything about it.

Fined \$10 for disorderly behaviour, in default fourteen days' imprisonment with hard labour, and to pay \$100 to the complainant, or two days' further imprisonment.

(Before H. R. Wadsworth, Esq., Police Magistrate.)

THIEF FROM THE DOCK.
John Achtung, dock unemployed, was charged with stealing a quantity of copper from the docks at Sham-nui Fo, yesterday evening.

Defendant had been caught when leaving the dock premises with two sheets of copper concealed on his person.

He said in answer to the question whether he was given to him by his best copper.

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and he was now fined in the sum of £10, in default three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

A STRAGGLE.
Charles Follon, a seaman of the American ship *Syrax*, was ordered to be sent on board his ship as a deserter, by the police, at the request of the American Consul.

CUTTING AND WOUNDING.
The case in which Cheung Ahin was charged on the 2nd inst., with cutting and wounding a married woman named Chan Au, at Aberdeen, was again called on Court to-day.

A medical certificate from Dr. Murray was put in certifying that the woman was still unable to leave the hospital, and the case was further remanded till Monday next, the 15th inst.

NEWS BY THE FRENCH MAIL.

The appended items are from the *L. & C. Express*.

A Post Office notification says: - The exchange of money orders with Japan, which was formerly carried on by means of the British post-office agency at Yokohama, but was suspended on the abolition of that agency in 1879, will be resumed on Oct. 1 next under a direct arrangement with the Japanese Post-office. The only office on which orders can be drawn will be Yokohama, as former, but the arrangements with the Japanese post-office will admit of payment being made at any place in Japan where there is a money-order office. The rates of commission will be for sums not exceeding £2, 9d.; for sums above £2 and not exceeding £5, 15d.; for sums above £5 and not exceeding £10, 25d.; for sums above £10, 30d. No money order can be drawn for a sum exceeding £10.

A tempting opportunity for investing surplus funds is offered just now by a speculator in Michigan. He proposes to form a joint-stock company, to be called "The International Spiral Staircase Treasure-Seeking Association," and the object of the undertaking is to build a spiral staircase down the Maclureton, to recover the valuable articles that have from time to time been sucked into it.

The Agents, 4, Compositors' Row, Commander Charles Johnston, who recently returned from the China station, and the Duke, has been moved into Hamaze, and is dismantling prior to "paying off" on the 11th prox. The Agents was 133 days on the voyage from Singapore.

The appointment is gazetted of Staff-Commandant Albert J. W. Neville to the 1st Jhus, for service in the Audacious, when commissioned for the China station.

The Earl of Airlie died on the 25th inst. at an hotel in Denver City, Colorado, from the effects of a chill, attended by congested lungs. He was 67 years of age. He was an excellent sportsman, and a member of the House of Lords as a representative Peer. He was also Lord High Commissioner to the Church of Scotland. He was born in 1820, succeeded to his title in 1849, and married in 1850. He was a member of the Lord Stanley of Alderley. He is succeeded by Lord Ogilvy, a lieutenant in the 40th Hussars.

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